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ALL-STARS TALK FUTURE

Roughriders receiver Weston Dressler speaks to media about his future on Wednesday at Regina's Mosaic Stadium, saying he hopes to work out for possibly a few NFL teams in the weeks ahead. Inset: running back Kory Sheets says if he stays in the CFL, he plans to remain with the Riders. Both have been named CFL all-stars for this past season. Story, page 22. ROSS ROMANIUK/METRO IN REGINA

It just doesn't add up: Sask. auditor

Surplus actually a deficit? Government scolded over 'pervasive' accounting errors for general revenue fund

Saskatchewan's auditor has issued an adverse opinion on the government's general revenue fund financial statements for "pervasive" accounting errors.

Acting auditor Judy Ferguson tabled her first report in the legislature Wednesday.

"There are so many errors it's too hard for the general person to make the adjustments, to figure out what the right information is," Ferguson said at a news conference.

She said her adverse audit opinion is the first ever issued in Saskatchewan.

The auditor said the government isn't following accounting principles generally accepted in Canada. If it had, she said, the general revenue fund would show an annual deficit of \$590 million instead

of the government's reported \$58-million surplus.

Ferguson said the government hasn't included pension-related debt or long-term debt funding for things such as schools in its statements. She said the government has also, inappropriately, counted transfers from its rainy-day fund as revenue and recorded funding for capital projects as assets instead of expenses.

auditor for using two sets of financial books: one for the general fund and another summary statement, which several provincial auditors have said more accurately covers all areas of government.

Saskatchewan Finance Minister Ken Krawetz took issue with the report and the adverse audit opinion.

"What the auditor wants

Minister strikes back

"Our accountants say we are following accounting principles and this is a dispute between accountants."

Finance Minister Ken Krawetz, in response to Judy Ferguson's adverse audit opinion. Krawetz said the government does not believe it is giving people inaccurate information.

"I think really from a public (perspective), you should expect to receive accurate and reliable financial statements and accurate and reliable financial information from the government," she said.

"And so what we're saying in this case — these statements aren't reliable."

The province has been repeatedly criticized by the

to see happen to the general revenue fund is she wants it to be the summaries. And I've said for years, it's been the position of the former government, of this government, that we do not include the pension liabilities, that we do not include the growth and financial security fund transfers," said Krawetz.

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City to endure property tax increase next year

7.43 per cent.
Public safety and roads seen as priorities in city's 2014 budget



MORGAN MODJESKI
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Saskatoon residents will be seeing a tax increase in 2014.

After two days of budget deliberation, council approved the 2014 budget of roughly \$773 million, which includes a 7.43 per cent increase in property taxes.

Most of the increase will be used for road maintenance and repair, as a dedicated tax levy of 4.29 per cent would bring funding in 2014 to a total of \$36.6 million, up \$13.7 million over 2013.

Mayor Don Atchison said he was pleased with council's decision, saying the budget addresses the concerns of citizens.

"They said loud and clear they want roads fixed, they

want less traffic congestion, they want better snow clearing ... and those are all things that were in the budget today," said Atchison after the budget review on Wednesday.

"Council today gave the administration the financial opportunity to be successful, and I believe they will be."

The remainder of the property-tax increase was allotted toward public safety and civic operations.

A total of 2.66 per cent will go toward the police service — a funding increase of 5.5 per cent, for an operating budget of \$76 million. Another 0.30 per cent will go toward the Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services — an increase of 1.4 per cent, for an operating budget of \$42.2 million. Lastly, 0.01 per cent will go to civic services.

While nothing was cut from the 2014 budget, city council approved a motion to borrow \$15 million over a 10-year period starting in 2016 for sound walls, adding an increase of 0.3 per cent in property taxes for the next three years.



City councillors debate the City of Saskatoon's 2014 municipal budget on Wednesday, the second day of the city's budget deliberation. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Labour unrest

Essential-services law gets rewritten

Saskatchewan is making changes to its essential-services legislation after years of court battles and labour dissent.

One of the changes means employers and unions won't have to negotiate a list of essential

workers unless they reach an impasse in bargaining.

Under the current rule, the two sides have to automatically start negotiating who is essential 90 days before a contract expires.

Another thing that's changing: an employer's right to dictate which workers are essential if the two sides can't agree.

Employers would only be able to do that if a contract

has expired, a new deal hasn't been reached and a strike vote has been taken.

Unions will be able to dispute all of the employers' choices.

Labour Minister Don Morgan says the changes won't be written into law until the Supreme Court of Canada decides whether Saskatchewan's labour laws are constitutional.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cameco Corp.

Uranium giant boosts its board

Uranium miner Cameco Corp. said Wednesday that Catherine Gignac has been appointed to the company's board of directors, effective Jan. 1.

Gignac has worked as a geologist, mining equity research analyst and con-

sultant. The company said Gignac has had extensive experience in project value analysis and mergers and acquisitions.

Gignac also serves on the boards of St. Andrew Goldfields Ltd., Trevali Mining Corp. and Corvus Gold Inc.

Cameco is one of the world's largest uranium producers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Police think Ford offered to buy video for \$5K and a car

Rob Ford saga. City council stripped him of most of his powers last month, but he said he'll run in the next municipal election

Police believe they overheard people on wiretaps during a gang investigation saying Toronto Mayor Rob Ford offered \$5,000 and a car in exchange for a video, according to a newly released police document.

The document contains police evidence from wiretaps on which alleged gang members and men arrested in a sweeping guns and drugs investigation talk with familiarity about the mayor and suggest they had supplied him with drugs.

Toronto police were in the midst of that large investigation, known as Project Traveller, when the mayor's name surfaced on the intercepts in March and April, police allege.

The document, containing allegations not proven in court, suggests some of the Project Traveller targets also talked about using images of Ford using drugs to blackmail him. They were also heard saying they "love and respect Rob Ford," but have evidence of him in a lot of messed up situations and don't want to say anything, the document says.

One man says on the wiretaps that he has many pictures of Ford "doing the hezza," and another man suggests those



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford wipes his brow in the council chamber at city hall as councillors pass motions to limit his powers on Nov. 18. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

pictures would be worth a lot, says the document. Hezza can be used as a slang term for heroin.

The mayor's name allegedly emerged on the wiretaps about two months before the Toronto Star and U.S. website Gawker first reported that alleged drug dealers were shopping around a video that appeared to show Ford smoking crack cocaine.

Information that police gathered from those wiretaps was in the remaining portions of a document filed in the drug case of Ford's friend Alexander Lisi.

Portions that were previously released showed former staffers alleged the mayor was intoxicated at work, drank while driving and associated with suspected prostitutes.

The last portions to be made public summarize an intercepted conversation police allege they heard on March 27. Investigators heard two men talking about plans to sell a tape and quoting Ford as saying "I'll give you 5,000 and a car," police allege in the document.

Mohamed Siad, who police believe was trying to sell the so-called crack video, said

during the conversation that he would meet with him and ask for "150," which police believed meant \$150,000, the document says.

The other man warned Siad that wouldn't be wise, as he would be putting himself in jeopardy, the document says. Siad, like most of the men monitored, was arrested as part of Project Traveller, and was later stabbed in jail. Police do not connect the stabbing to the video in the document.

Ford's lawyer, Dennis Morris, told television station CP24 the latest allegations are baseless. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Homicide

Crack video a motive for man's murder, police told

Court documents unsealed Wednesday point to two rumoured motives for the murder of alleged gang member Anthony Smith: a retaliation over a robbery or, as Rob Ford's staff told police, the infamous crack cocaine video.

Sections of the new document detail how Ford's former chief of staff Mark Towhey and former "logistics director" David Price spoke with the police about how an anonymous tipster gave Price information about the video and Smith.

According to the documents, Price told Towhey, Doug Ford and later the police about two anonymous calls he received on May 17, the day after the crack video reports broke.

After Towhey contacted the police with Price's story, Price was interviewed. He told police on the morning of May 17, he got a call from a unknown number offering him information on "the drug dealers who had (the) tape" and gave the nickname and phone number of Mohamed Siad (since identified by police as one of the people trying to sell the tape)

and his friend Mohamed Farah. In a second call that afternoon, Price was told the dealers who have the video could be found at unit 1703, 320 Dixon Rd.

As a result of the call, Price told Towhey, and later the police, the video was the motive for Smith's murder, the document states.

However, the police had a different theory about the murder, via the wiretaps being run in the Project Traveller gang investigation.

At the Loki Lounge on March 28, just before he was shot, Smith texted Liban Siyad to say he saw Saaid Mohiadin at the club and planned to assault him, the document says.

Siyad replied, "Okay halal meat," which police believe means "dead meat" or "kill him." In minutes, an altercation ensued, and Smith and Mohamed Khattak were shot. Smith died in hospital.

"The motive for the murder was also detailed during intercepts, and revealed the murder may have been retaliation for Smith and his associates robbing Mohiadin aka 'Post' last November," police wrote.

In the document, police noted that the motive for murder Price gave them is "believed to be incorrect" based on the robbery motive they heard on the wiretaps.

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'IT'S AN INSULT': SEALERS

Made in Newfoundland.

Sealers defend hunt in wake of WTO decision to uphold EU trade ban



JONATHAN RUSSELL

jonathan.russell@metronews.ca

"Here you are trying to manoeuvre through the ice — you got to watch those big ice pans — and a big swell in the water ... the boat was moving back and forth ... you got to watch how you're getting through because they can throw together and put a hole right on through the boat, really — it has happened — and then you're trying to get a shot at the seal at the same time and with this buzzing over you."

Keith Bath, 67, first encountered "this buzzing" of an animal-rights helicopter during last year's seal hunt off the coast of St. Anthony, N.L.

Bath, who now lives in La Scie, N.L., has been sealing for 50 years.

Last year's catch "amounted to close to \$300,000," Bath estimates. Each of his seven crew members receive nine per cent



Seal hunters drag a dead seal to their boat in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence in this 2008 photo. JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES FILE

of the cut. Fuel, his biggest cost, runs around \$20,000. After expenses, the seal hunt represented 40 per cent of his annual income for 2013, he says.

His boat landed some 7,600 seals in two weeks, the majority of which were beater seals, roughly 25 days old. Hunting younger seals, or whitecoats, has been banned since 1987.

In the vast majority of those 7,600 deaths, Bath says he used a .222-, .223-, .22250- or .243-calibre rifle with a scope. Bullets cost just over a dollar each, he says.

"Not many seals are killed

with a hakapik (club) from a longliner (65-footer)," he says of his vessel, which tows a speedboat used by the rest of his crew to collect the seals from the ice. "Good sealers like we are — you know, most everyone — try to make sure that they got a good shot and a head shot ... and if we see that it's crippled, we just give it another bullet."

Bath is one of 4,000 fishermen in Newfoundland and Labrador certified by the Professional Fish Harvesters Certification Board, which trains sealers in the humane killing of the animals, the regulatory process

and proper handling procedures.

That certification, coupled with monitoring by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, ensures a humane hunt, according to Frank Pinhorn, executive director of the Canadian Sealers Association.

Pinhorn balked at the World Trade Organization's recent decision to uphold the European Union ban on Canadian seal products based on the necessity "to protect public morals."

"The decision, based on ethics and morality, is an insult to all our sealers," Pinhorn says, adding the reason sealers are targeted by animal-rights groups is "because it's an easy thing to do. They just lucked into the imagery of red, intense blood on pure, white ice."

"They'll lie, they'll cheat, they'll use deceit — because the people making these decisions (at WTO and EU) know absolutely nothing about what it



Keith Bath

means to live in Mary's Harbour, or St. Anthony, or Twillingate, and earn a living from the ocean."

Beyond that, the regulations are heavily enforced, he says. All boats are subject to inspection. Bath says in 2012 one such DFO officer observed his practices.

"I try everything in the world to make sure that it's done as clean as we can do it," Bath says.

"You can make a mistake, anyone can make a mistake. But 90 per cent, I'd say, of (those who) goes out there try to do it as good as they can, have as clean a go as possible."

Protecting 'public morals'

WTO ruling a finding of fact

The World Trade Organization decision last week to uphold the European ban on Canadian seal products as "necessary to protect public morals" marked a breakthrough in animal-welfare cases, according to a professor of international law.

Robert Howse, who teaches at New York University, says this is because the WTO panel based its decision on factual

findings versus legal findings. They differ in one key respect: A legal finding can be appealed to the appellate body — a factual finding cannot.

"What Canada did claim was that concern about the seal hunt was, on the facts, not a matter of public morality, but the emotional, eccentric opinions of one section of the European public," Howse said.

"(But) the EU presented evidence that is compelling: That you can't have a humane seal hunt in Canada, and the rea-

son you can't is that the conditions under which the hunt occurs are such that it's really not possible to ensure and monitor that humane hunting techniques are being used.

"In other situations of animal welfare (such as slaughterhouses), it would usually be possible to address moral concerns without a ban, by merely requiring that standards of humane treatment be monitored and enforced."

The WTO also ruled, however, the ban does not apply

to Inuit or indigenous communities, "because an advantage granted by the European Union to seal products originating in Greenland (specifically, its Inuit population) is not accorded immediately and unconditionally to the like products originating in Canada."

The Canadian government said it would appeal the ban. "Of course the Canadian government is going to appeal," says Howse, "but the fact is that they're not going to win anything of value."

Quoted



"It's the perfect bourgeois cause, because for the people who (oppose it), in Europe or downtown Toronto, it doesn't affect their own lives at all, not even in the slightest. If they were to get excited about global warming or something, they might have to question how they impact on the environment. But they don't have to do that with the seal hunt; they can blame it all on those nasty Newfoundlanders ... And it has great visuals."

Lars Osberg, professor of economics at Dalhousie University, on how the EU seal ban will affect a small part of the population significantly while hardly putting a dent in the region's economy

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EU ban a win for animal rights groups

Sheryl Fink has observed the seal hunt for 11 years, both in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and off the eastern coast of Newfoundland, known as the Front.

She says she went to observe "the cruelty, the inhumane killings."

"It's allowable to hook a seal in the face," said Fink, seal campaign director for the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW). "An animal is allowed to be hooked in the face by the gaffe and dragged to the boat."

The decision last week by the panel of the World Trade Organization was a victory for IFAW and other animal-rights groups.

The 27-member state European Union is now part of 34 countries that ban Canadian seal products, including the U.S. (1972), Russia (2011) and most recently Taiwan (2013).

IFAW and other non-governmental organizations like the International Humane Society submitted an Amicus Brief with their own research and findings referred to by the European Commission in its defence of the seal ban. IFAW was also consulted by the EU as a stakeholder alongside the sealing industry to develop and implement the regulations of the EU ban on seal products, which came into force Aug. 20, 2010.

"This is significant in that it's just another international body that's looked at the seal hunt ... and they said seal bans are OK," Fink said of the WTO's ruling, adding it's another indica-



Sheryl Fink CONTRIBUTED

tion the world does not want seal products.

Haven't organizations like the IFAW created a negative view of seal products?

"It's very easy to blame the NGOs and say that we've brainwashed everyone — and I only wish we were that powerful, that we've brainwashed the WTO, and the Russian Federation, and Taiwan. I kind of wish that were true," she said, laughing.

"I think the reality is people just don't want seal products; this just isn't a product that is wanted or needed in the 21st century, just like we don't do commercial whaling anymore. I think the time has come where commercial sealing is going to be disappearing."

Check online

Read more about the seal hunt at metronews.ca

In numbers

2.8M

According to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, roughly 89,000 seals were landed in Newfoundland and Labrador alone for a total value of \$2.8 million.

\$590M

The provincial fishery's total catch was nearly \$590 million, according to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

\$1.8M

The International Fund for Animal Welfare spent \$1.8 million on its seal campaign in 2012. The IFAW raised \$2.4 million total that year, but noted it does non-restrictive fundraising, which means donors gave the money to the IFAW and the organization allocated the funds specifically toward the seal campaign.

A harp seal.

JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES FILE

DAOUST

Dr. Pierre-Yves Daoust is a professor of Anatomic Pathology and Wildlife Pathology at the University of Prince Edward Island.

"From an animal welfare perspective, these animals (should) be killed as quickly as possible — realizing that it is a hunt and therefore it's not necessarily successful 100 per cent of the time, just like the slaughtering of domestic animals in slaughterhouses is not effective 100 per cent of the time," said Daoust. "We insisted at the WTO hearing we go back to the EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) report and see what they said, and there is no evidence there that the seal hunt is any worse than other forms of the exploitation of animals. The problem is because of the nature of the hunt — because of the nature of any hunt — it's very difficult to have robust, statistically valid observation of the whole hunt, which takes into account the weather, the types of boats, the education of individual sealers and coming up with a figure that says, X per cent of the animals are not killed properly."

DEBATE

Like issues of economic viability and morality, the science around the Canadian seal hunt is divided. Metro interviewed experts in veterinary medicine and animal welfare about the key issue surrounding the hunt: Are seals killed in a humane manner? Both testified at the WTO hearings:

BROOM

Dr. Donald Broom is a professor of Animal Welfare at the Department of Veterinary Medicine at Cambridge University, whose research includes assessing animal welfare, including pain. "I have seen that some statements by animal protection societies over-emphasize the negative aspects of sealing and some statements by sealers over-emphasize the quality of their methods," said Broom. "Seals are complex animals with a pain system similar to ours, so an injury for some minutes or hours is a major welfare problem in seals. Almost all farm animals in slaughterhouses are handled without fear being caused to them. The stunning procedure in a slaughterhouse usually causes no pain and the animal dies without recovering consciousness. It is rare for the electrical procedure or captive-bolt gun application not to work, but if it does, a second stun occurs within a few seconds. I think that it is correct that many seals shot with a rifle die without suffering. However, the number that are not killed, or rendered unconscious with the initial shot or shots, and hence which do suffer, is high."

1800s

The commercial seal hunt's main purpose is to extract oil, large quantities of which are shipped to Britain for fuel for lamps, as a lubricant, as cooking oil, in processing leather and jute, and as a constituent in soap.

1914

The crew of the hunting vessel Newfoundland is caught on the ice for two days in a snowstorm. Seventy-eight men freeze to death on the ice, while 55 survivors lose limbs.

1980s

In 1983, the European Economic Community bans the importation of whitecoats (unwashed harps) and bluebacks (young hooded). In 1987, the federal government prohibits the commercial harvest of whitecoats and bluebacks, and hunting from large vessels.

2009 - Present

In 2009, the European Union bans the import of Canadian seal products. In 2011, the Russian Federation bans the import of seal products. In 2013, Taiwan follows suit.

SOURCE: DFO

Regulating the hunt

Department of Fisheries and Oceans says officers are looking most closely at the '3-step process' recommended by the Independent Veterinarians Working Group (IVWG).

- The amendment involves:
 - striking (with approved firearm or hakapik),
 - checking (that both halves of the cranium are crushed), and
 - bleeding (before waiting a minute to skin the animal).
- DFO says the seal hunt can be properly regulated because the seals — and therefore the sealers — are often concentrated in the same areas: in the Gulf around the Magdalen Islands and in the Front east of the northern peninsula.
- DFO monitoring is done by fixed-wing aircraft, helicopter, boat and deployment of officers to each sealing vessel.





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Human evolution

400,000-year-old bone discovered

Scientists have reached farther back than ever into the ancestry of humans to analyze DNA from a bone found in Spain estimated to be 400,000 years old.

The feat surpasses the previous age record of about 100,000 years for genetic material recovered from the human



evolutionary line. Surprisingly, the DNA shows a close relationship to Denisovans, who lived in Siberia and apparently elsewhere in Asia, far from the Spanish cave where the bone was found.

Matthias Meyer — who presented the results online Wednesday in the journal *Nature* — noted that the cave has acted as “the perfect fridge” to preserve the DNA for eons, and said it will be hard to find comparable situations elsewhere.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

B.C. Defunct clinic to dispose of sperm samples

A B.C. Supreme Court judge has given a clinic at the B.C. Women's Centre for Reproductive Health in Vancouver permission to destroy and dispose of sperm specimens if clients don't let the clinic know by Dec. 24 that they want the samples transferred to another facility.

The clinic has been storing sperm for more than 400 class-action members since 2010, when those samples were transferred from a lab run by UBC.

The group, led by lead plaintiff Howard Lam, is suing the university after a power failure in 2002 destroyed hundreds of sperm samples. Lawyer Arthur Grant, who is representing the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, had argued against the order, as it could “negatively impact the rights of the plaintiff and class members in the class action.”

But the clinic stopped operating last year, none of its clients are paying for storage, and it doesn't have the money to keep storing

the specimens, court documents posted online this week say.

Justice Bruce Butler said in his ruling that the order is warranted because the clinic has done its due diligence. Besides, there is no practical reason to keep the specimens belonging to the class-action members since UBC has admitted they are damaged, said Butler.

The class members, many of whom were cancer patients about to undergo medical treatments, had their sperm preserved for an annual fee in a freezer at the UBC Andrology Lab. The freezer was set at temperatures below -130 degrees Celsius, but it experienced a power failure and the sperm samples were damaged.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Samples that may be lost

More than 1,200 people have sperm or embryo samples stored at the B.C. fertility clinic



Towering over his fellow protest leaders, boxing champion and presidential hopeful Vitali Klitschko attends a rally in front of the parliament building in Kyiv, Ukraine, in April. SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boxing champ joins protests in Ukraine

Vying for the title of president. WBC heavyweight champ Vitali Klitschko emerges as Ukraine's most popular opposition figure

Thanks to his sports-hero status and reputation as a pro-Western politician untainted by Ukraine's frequent corruption scandals, six-foot-seven Vitali Klitschko has surpassed jailed former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko in opinion polls.

As massive anti-government protests continue to grip Ukraine, the 42-year-old boxer-turned-politician is urging his countrymen to continue their fight to turn this ex-Soviet republic into a genuine Western democracy.

“This is not a revolution. It is a peaceful protest that

Fighting words

“They stole our hope.”

Vitali Klitschko, politician and boxer speaking about the political climate in Ukraine

demands justice,” Klitschko told The Associated Press in an interview Wednesday. “The people are not defending political interests. They are defending the idea of living in a civilized country.”

Dubbed Dr. Ironfist for his prowess in the boxing ring, Klitschko has scored 45 victories in 47 fights, 41 of them with knockouts. He has successfully defended his title 11 times, most recently in September 2012, and plans to have one more bout before he retires.

Now Klitschko must prove that he has as much stamina in the political arena.

Despite earning a doctorate in sports science, Klitsch-

ko has had to fight a stereotype of being intellectually unfit to run this economically troubled nation of 46 million.

Still, he appeals to many Ukrainians with his air of sincerity and his image as a handsome tough guy ready to defend his compatriots. Unlike many Ukrainian politicians — including Tymoshenko — who are accused of making their fortunes in shady business deals in the tumultuous post-Soviet era, Klitschko's millions come from a transparent source — the boxing ring.

The angry protests were sparked by the president's abrupt decision last month to ditch a political and economic treaty with the 28-nation European Union in favour of closer economic ties with Russia, which had threatened Ukraine with trade consequences if the country signed the EU deal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

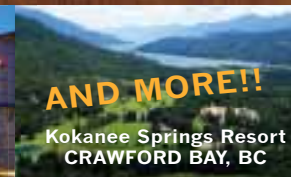
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Looters, robbers run riot as police strike for more pay

Cordoba, Argentina.

Hospital authorities reported one shooting death and more than 100 injuries, mostly from shattered glass



A man is detained by police amid spent shell casings outside a supermarket that was being looted in Cordoba, Argentina, Wednesday.
MARIO SAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A wave of looting and robberies spread across Argentina's second largest city Tuesday night and continued Wednesday.

Opportunists took advantage of a police strike for higher pay which the provincial governor says was triggered by his closure of brothels that provided a money stream to corrupt officers.

The violence in Cordoba began with storefronts being shattered, mobs stealing mer-

chandise, robbers attacking people in the streets and vigilantes arming themselves to protect their homes. Supermarkets and a mobile television van recording the violence were attacked, even as officers and provincial authorities began negotiations to end the strike.

Gov. Jose Manuel de la Sota said 56 people have been ar-

rested.

He said he's offered police a 52-per cent pay increase, including bonuses for street work or extra duty, for a total of 12,600 pesos a month, which he called "the best salary for police in Argentina," according to Cordoba's Voz del Interior newspaper. That represents about \$2,175 monthly at official exchange rate, or about \$1,440 at the black market rate many Argentines consider as a more reliable measure of their money's value.

De la Sota described the strike as a police response to his decision to close 140 brothels that provide income to corrupt officers.

National Security Chief Sergio Berni said 2,000 border police are being deployed in Cordoba to help restore peace.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Johns targeted in French anti-prostitution legislation

Protesters who support abolition of prostitution rally outside the French National Assembly in Paris Wednesday as parliament voted 268-138 to pass a bill that would decriminalize solicitation and impose on clients fines of 1,500 euros (about \$2,175). The bill now goes to the French senate. Prostitution is currently legal in France, but soliciting and pimping are prohibited. FRANCOIS MORI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Radioactive material

Deadly cobalt-60 found abandoned near stolen truck

A missing shipment of radioactive cobalt-60 was found Wednesday near where the stolen truck transporting the material was abandoned in central Mexico state, the country's nuclear safety director said.

The highly radioactive material was found in an empty lot about a kilometre from Hueyapxtla, an agricultural town of about 4,000 people, but it poses no threat or a need for an evacuation, said Juan Eibenschutz.

The cargo truck hauling cobalt-60 that had been used in medical equipment was stolen from a gas station early Tuesday, and authorities had put out an alert in six central states and the capital looking for it.

Eibenschutz said direct exposure to cobalt-60 could result in death within a few minutes.

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PM speaks on spate of suicides

Fourth soldier takes his life. Recent rash of deaths puts national attention on the struggles of soldiers

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has weighed in on the spate of apparent soldier suicides that have rocked the Canadian Forces in recent days.

Harper says everyone should encourage veterans in need to reach out to the support and systems that are there to help.

The prime minister's comments came hours after the Defence Department confirmed the military police at Canadian Forces Base Valcartier in Quebec are investigating the death Tuesday of Master Cpl. Sylvain Lelievre, from the 3rd battalion of the Royal 22nd Regiment.

Lelievre is the fourth soldier believed to have committed suicide since last week.

Lelievre joined the Canadian Forces in June 1985 and was deployed to Bosnia between 2001 and 2002, and again in 2004. He also served in Kandahar from 2010 to 2011.

"As the death took place on the base, it is now under military police investigation. As such, it is inappropriate for us

Condolences

"The loss of any soldier is devastating to the military community and our condolences go out to his family and friends."

Capt. Denny Brown, Army Public Affairs

to comment on the investigation."

The escalating struggle of soldiers has been resonating across the country since word of the suicides began emerging.

The deaths include a senior non-commissioned officer at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa, northwest of Ottawa, as well as two other soldiers in Western Canada.

Veterans advocates say the number of apparent suicides within the military in recent days may only hint at the magnitude of the problem. For every death by suicide, they warn, as many as a dozen others may have unsuccessfully sought the same fate.

Veterans ombudsman Guy Parent said spouses of veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder need to know how to spot the warning signs. He also says greater financial stability is needed for veterans.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Engineer says he went into a 'daze' before deadly derailment

A Metro-North Railroad commuter train pulls into the Spuyten-Duyvil station in the Bronx. The station reopened Wednesday, three days after a nearby derailment killed four people. The engineer of the speeding commuter train that ran off the rails along a curve experienced a hypnotic-like "daze" and nodded at the controls before he suddenly realized something was wrong and hit the brakes, a lawyer said. JIM FITZGERALD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justice system. Vet says jail ill-equipped for PTSD

A British war veteran recently held in the same Alberta jail where a Canadian soldier killed himself says the justice system doesn't properly deal with people who have post-traumatic stress disorder.

John Collins, diagnosed with PTSD about six years ago, was arrested last month at his home in Lethbridge on various charges, including assault. He has since been released on bail.

Last week he learned about the suicide of the artillery soldier, identified by friends as

Travis Halmrast, at the same Lethbridge Correctional Centre.

Collins didn't know Halmrast, but has strong feelings about the case.

"He shouldn't have been there," he said. "From the moment they found out he was ex-military, alarm bells should have been ringing."

Lethbridge police wouldn't talk specifically about the case, but said officers have training to deal with people with mental health issues, including PTSD. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prison couple. Court dismisses inmates' case

A judge has dismissed an application by two inmates at a Saskatchewan prison who are in a relationship and want to live together.

Jean Richer and Leslie Sinobert argued the Correctional Service of Canada is violating their rights.

The two men told court they are in a "long-standing" relationship and want to live in the same house in the minimum-security annex at the federal Saskatchewan Penitentiary in Prince Albert.

Court heard they are serving life or indeterminate sentences, and were transferred from medium-security to a minimum facility in the spring. They were then assigned to live in different housing units.

Prison officials denied a request by the couple that they be allowed to live under the same roof.

Justice Mona Dovell ruled she has no jurisdiction to determine if a prison's administrative decision is unreasonable.

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Companies are starting to take note of consumer concerns over potentially harmful ingredients in a range of beauty products. JENNIFER POLIXENNI BRANKIN/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Beauty industry doing an about-face

Power of the people. Companies are starting to remove possibly harmful ingredients from products after pressure from customers

An environmental group says cosmetics companies are starting to listen to consumer worries over potentially harmful ingredients in their products.

Toronto-based Environmental Defence says public pressure is beginning to exert influence on the ingredients companies use in everything from shampoo and moisturizers to toothpaste and deodorant.

"The good news is that some companies are listening to the growing concerns from

their customers about the risks of these chemicals," Maggie MacDonald of Environmental Defence said in a release.

"Others need to take the old saying to heart — the customer is always right — and act to remove harmful chemicals."

Procter & Gamble announced in September that it would eliminate triclosan, a commonly used anti-bacterial agent, and phthalates from its personal-care products in 2014.

Johnson & Johnson committed in 2012 to remove triclosan, phthalates, formaldehydes and parabens from its adult toiletries and cosmetics.

Walmart, meanwhile, announced this fall that it would be working toward reducing chemicals starting in January, and promises a public report in two years on how it has fared.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Concerns

- **Triclosan**, an antibacterial agent, was found by a Health Canada study to be harmful to the environment, but safe for humans. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is currently reviewing the safety of triclosan. Concerns have been raised that triclosan may be triggering hormonal changes, or causing antimicrobial resistance.
- **Phthalates**, a family of chemicals commonly used as plasticizers, raised worried after studies suggested that when ingested, phthalates could cause reproductive and developmental abnormalities in young children.

England. Care for a tent and a spot of tea after getting blotto at the pub?

With the festive season approaching, the scourge of drunk drivers returns, and one pub in Worcestershire, central England, has an innovative solution, installing a campsite in the garden for those too intoxicated to drive home. The Drum and Monkey's Paul Miller took our questions.

How did you come up with this?

We heard about a pub in the area that had apartments for customers to use if they needed. There was nothing like that here so we contacted a tent company and they were happy to sponsor the idea.

Did you have a problem with unruly drunks refusing to leave?

It's not about drunks, more for people who have had just too many drinks to drive, and it's just for December. The police have told us it's a fantastic idea.

What do your neighbours think?

I don't know, but it can't be a bad thing to have free camping facilities. We have not heard any concerns: This is a country pub and we don't have many kids making trouble.

What kind of luxury can I expect if I sleep there?

A mug of tea at breakfast. Maybe a sandwich. On New Year's Eve we have organized free transport for anyone who wants it.

METRO WORLD NEWS



The Drum and Monkey in Worcester, England, has set up a campsite for those too drunk to drive during the month of December. CONTRIBUTED

Market Minute



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'tipsforjesus'

No good deed goes un-Instagrammed

Employees at two Ann Arbor, Mich., bars have seen some unusually big tips this year.

The Ann Arbor News reports that in September a \$3,000 US tip was left for an \$87.98 US bill at Bar Louie and \$7,000 US for a \$200 US bill at Alley Bar.

The tips are among a number reported around the country in recent months. They're chronicled on the photo-sharing application Instagram using the "tipsforjesus" name.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Germany

Two arrested in Bitcoin scheme

German police say they have arrested two people and seized illegally generated bitcoins worth more than 700,000 euros (\$950,000 US) in an investigation of computer fraud.

Police say the perpetrators used the processing power of the hacked computers to generate bitcoins, a cryptography-based digital currency. They also are investigating further suspected fraud, violations of copyright law and offences related to the distribution of pornography.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The front of a physical bitcoin. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Baby boomers addicted to the web, gadgets too



Boomers are starting to catch-up to younger tech-obsessed consumers when it comes to tech gadgets and getting hooked on the Internet. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Canadian boomers have lagged behind younger tech-obsessed consumers when it comes to buying gadgets and getting hooked on the web, but a new report suggests that might be changing.

The results of telephone surveys with more than 6,000 Canadians conducted on behalf of the Media Technology Monitor were used to compare technology trends among members of Gen Y (defined as 24- to 33-year-old consumers), Gen Z (aged 18 to 23) and the 47-to-67 boomer demographic.

Younger consumers were earlier adopters of smartphones and streaming web video but some of the gaps may be narrowing as well-heeled boomers are eagerly discovering new technologies.

"While (boomers) have not grown up with publicly available Internet and wireless technologies, they have become avid users of these offerings," states the report.

"Younger boomers are reaching their earning prime, giving them money to spend on media technology."

When it comes to spending time online, the members of Gen Z told pollsters they were typically using the Internet for about 28 hours a week. That was a couple of hours more than Gen Y respondents, and nearly double the time boomers estimated they were on the Internet.

Almost half of all boomers said they were smartphone owners, while about 82 per cent of Gen Z and 78 per cent of Gen Y poll respondents said they had a smartphone.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tablets

The only example of boomers leading the way in tech adoption was with tablets.

- Younger boomers between 47 and 57 were most likely to embrace tablets. About 36 per cent of the consumers in that cohort said they owned a tablet, which was more than Gen Y (34 per cent) and Gen Z (28 per cent).

FASTER THAN YOU CAN SAY 'SHOPPING'

I've always believed in Santa Claus, because the speed at which he delivers gifts is no faster than the speed at which I buy them.

I shop at a speed that renders me blurry to onlookers.

If there were commandos descending into a mall via zip lines and they saw me entering the store, the first words they would say when their boots touched the ground would be, "Hey, where'd he go?"

Christmas shopping is a necessary Eve-ill, but I treat the mall like it's radioactive and I've left my radiation suit at home. Think of Superman cleaning up his apartment after Lois unexpectedly rings the doorbell — scrubbing his Supershower and hiding his Superporn in a blue-red blur of anxiety.

If you find yourself spending untold minutes at the mall, here are a few pointers I follow to make sure my strategic incursion into the commercial side of the holidays isn't much longer than a holiday commercial.

1) The first step to make Christmas shopping fly by is to



HE SAYS

John Mazerolle

metronews.ca

have a plan. If I write "Buy my brother a Blu-ray he already owns" or "Break a nice ornament for Mom before I leave the parking lot," it makes it that much more efficient when it happens.

It also helps if you make a point of setting aside 4:45 to 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve, so that you're not panicking when shopping time arrives.

2) Make room for yourself. Depending on the mood at the mall, being jammed into a sea of zombie-like shoppers can be as terrifying as Night of the Living Dead or as tedious as The Walking Dead. And thanks to terrorism in recent decades, it's no longer appropriate to yell "Bomb!" in a crowded

area.

Instead, start your day off with a hearty breakfast of garlic bulbs, baked beans and whole onions and watch those shoppers disperse like they're pepper and you're a bar of soap.

Not willing to wait in a long line? In New Brunswick,

Saskatchewan or other rural areas, a seasonal cry of "That store wrote 'Xmas' on their sign! Why do they hate the baby Jesus?" is usually enough for the line to leave in a mob (careful of the torches and pitchforks).

In Toronto, Vancouver or other metropolitan areas, try "My word, is that a Discount Divorce, Yoga and Kale Salon?" Watch for latte splashback as they depart.

3) Don't forget that the gifts you choose can help speed up the process. For instance, if your kids aren't worth it, just buy batteries that will help power the toys bought by other relatives.

Or, if you believe in the true spirit of Christmas, why not take the money you would have spent on gifts and spend it on the world's many charities? What child wouldn't be touched to hear that you skipped out on the PlayStation so you could put \$500 in the Salvation Army pot? What spouse could argue about vacations when you've spent all the Christmas savings on refugees?

Your whole family will be moved to tears, I guarantee.

This also might be another good time to put the Superman/Santa speed to good use.

You'll believe a man can fly.

ZOOM

Renovation turns things around



STUART C. WILSON/GETTY IMAGES

House is flipped topsy-turvy

A British artist has given the figure of speech "to turn a place upside down" a literal side by making a building topsy-turvy. Alex Chinneck, from London, England, has created an upside-down façade to a derelict building in the centre of the city. The site where the artwork stands dates from 1780 and had been slated for demolition. **METRO**

Artist's bizarre world

"I enjoy tapping into people's love for the simple pleasures in life, like magic and illusion. There is more to life than survival — there is culture that is uplifting and pleasurable."

Alex Chinneck, artist



Chinneck's previous work was a brick façade in Margate, England, that "melted" off the side of a house. COURTESY STEPHEN O'FLAHERTY

Clickbait



LUKE SIMCOE
Metro Online

If you think Instagram is just a den of food snapshots and "narcissistic" selfies, you're doing it wrong. Here are some users to follow for a glimpse of the photo-sharing site's creative side.



COURTESY @PAYPHONES

@rachelryle:

The recent introduction of video has allowed Rachel Ryle to bring her brand of stop-motion animation to Instagram. Be careful, Ryle's quirky, simple videos can be addictive.

@payphones:

Dan Marker-Moore's account documents the dying days of the public payphone. The concept is simple, but

the portraits are carefully composed and possessed of more pathos than you might expect.

@andrewknapp:

If you ever wished Waldo, of Where's Waldo fame, was a dog, then Andrew Knapp's account is for you. Knapp takes pictures of his border collie Momo hiding in the wilds of northern Ontario. How quickly can you spot him? (Hint: Look for the red bandana.)

Comments

RE: Woman Fights Ticket For Driving With Google Glass, published Dec. 3

'Suspicion' of speeding? And after the car was stopped? Are all police, dolts? Sounds to me more like the cop didn't actually have a reason to pull her over in the first place. Having a means of distraction nearby does not mean she was distracted. **jeff200 posted to metronews.ca**

How about 'suspicion of being stupid'? Why are drivers going out of their way to find new ways of being distracted?

CCToronto posted to metronews.ca

How about ... the report is probably incorrect in stating 'suspicion of speeding'? She was likely caught for speeding; period. Police won't write a ticket for 'suspicion of speeding' lol! Preposterous.

Koree Em posted to metronews.ca

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SCENE 11

‘I don’t have to pretend to be hunched over and grumpy’

Local theatre. John Wright returns to the stage to star in The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon – a role he has played once before



BACKSTAGE PASS
Simon Hiatt
saskatoon@metronews.ca

John Wright is having a much easier time playing the title character in Persephone Theatre’s production of The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon, than he did the first time he took on the role of the curler with dreams of Brier glory nearly three decades ago.

The improvement isn’t just a result of having honed his acting skills since 1984. He also has much more in common with the character these days.

“Now that I’m the right age it’s a bit more fun. I don’t have to grey the beard and I don’t have to pretend to be hunched over and grumpy and tired all the time,” Wright said. “There’s less acting required.”

The role is a temporary return to the stage for Wright, who is now semi-retired from the profession after spending much of the past 40 years appearing in productions across the country.

“I just got tired of the grind of being out of town for



Actor John Wright stars in The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon at Persephone Theatre, a company he helped found. SIMON HIATT/METRO

so long, you know being away from my wife for six months at a time. I decided that I would do one or two shows a year if they come up, but if they don’t come up they don’t come up.”

He was drawn back by

both the chance to appear in a play and role he loves, and the opportunity to do so in the place where his career began.

“When Del (Surjik, Persephone’s artistic director) offered me this I thought

it would be kind of fun to come back and see some old friends and see the new theatre.”

Wright, who now lives in Edmonton, was among the people who were there in the early days of Persephone’s

What you need to know

The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon tells the story of a shoemaker who wants to win the Brier and agrees to sell his soul to the devil.

- The tale. It was written by W.O. Mitchell in 1951 and is based loosely on the tale of Faust. It runs through Dec. 15. Tickets are available through persephonetheatre.org.

existence. His sisters Janet and Susan founded the company with Brian Richmond, while his father Jack helped secure funding for the company.

He says he and his other sister Anne essentially served as underlings to get the theatre off the ground.

“It was a hand to mouth existence. Beg, borrow, steal, get whatever you could. It was tough in the beginning but we did it.”

Wright says being back in Saskatoon brings back fond memories of those early days, but he’s also thrilled to see how the company has grown. And there’s another reason he’s enjoying the role more the second time around: he has someone to help out with the heavy work.

“I haven’t been able to do much of the curling because I have a terrible back. I have a stand in who does my rocks for me from offstage. Otherwise I would be in a wheelchair.”

2 SCENE

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Tom Daley ALL IMAGES GETTY

Daley's boyfriend isn't just anyone, you know

British Olympic diver Tom Daley announced this week that he has been dating a man for most of this year, but it turns out it isn't just any man. Daley is reportedly dating Oscar-winning screenwriter Dustin Lance Black, according to E! News.

The pair was spotted grabbing coffee together in L.A. in October. Black, who won his Academy Award for his script for Milk, is set to direct his next film, The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight, next spring in London, coincidentally.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Beyoncé and Jay-Z plant their feet for diet challenge

Jay-Z and Beyoncé are officially going vegan until Christmas, the rapper announced on his Life and Times blog. "Psychologists have said it takes 21 days to make or break a habit. On the 22nd day, you've found the way," he wrote. "One day before my 44th birthday, I will embark on a 22 Days challenge to go completely vegan, or as I prefer to call it, plant-based." He also confirmed that Beyoncé "is also joining me" on his "spiritual and physical cleanse" of sorts. "I don't know what



happens after Christmas," he admitted. "A semi-vegan, a full plant-based diet? Or just a spiritual and physical challenge? We'll see."

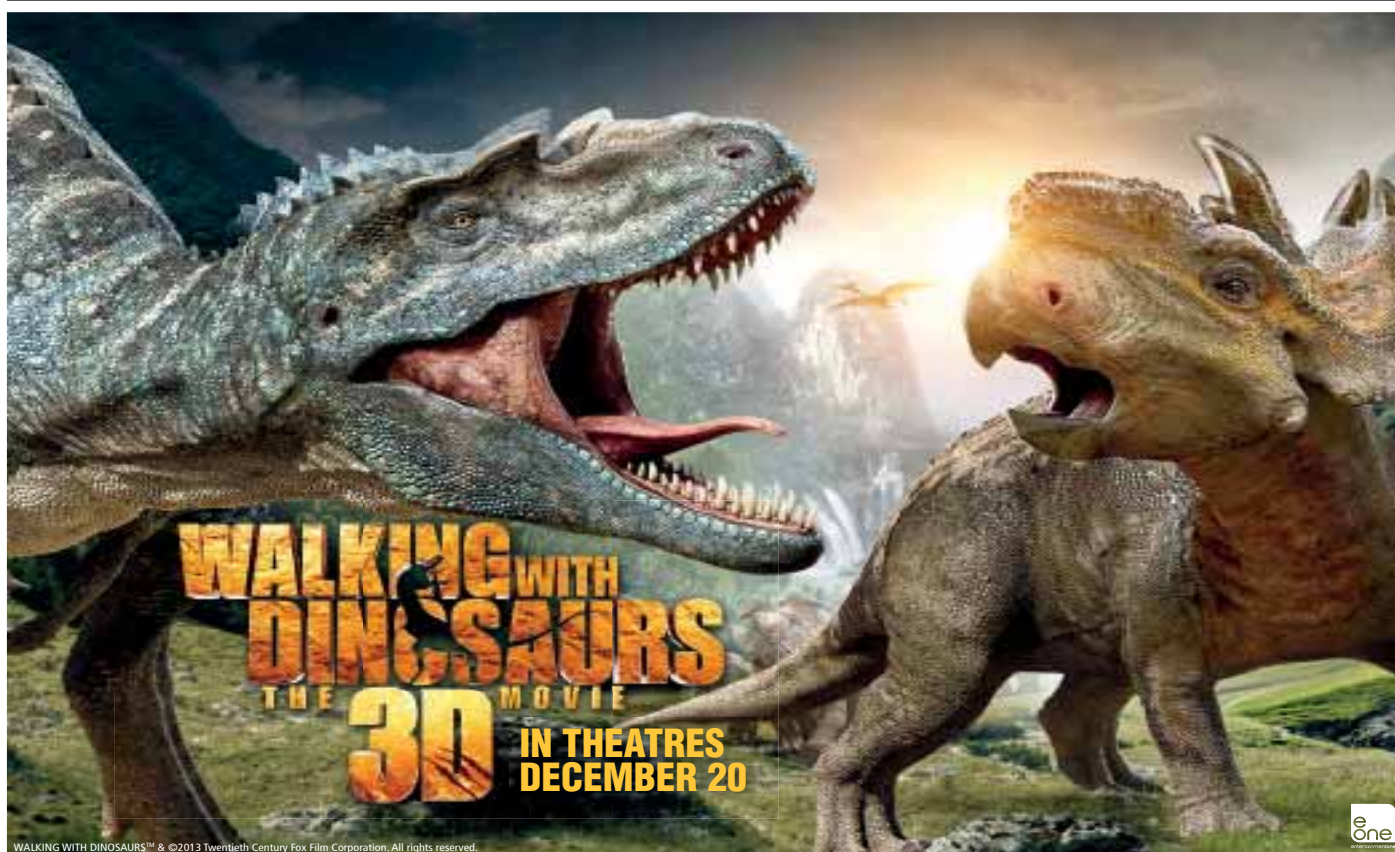


Chris Hemsworth

There's a reason that Thor kiss was so passionate

If the lip-lock between Chris Hemsworth and Natalie Portman at the very end of Thor: The Dark World seems awfully intense, that's because it wasn't actually Portman. The Oscar-winning actress tells the New York Daily News that Hemsworth's wife, Elsa Pataky, donned

a wig and filled in for Portman for the scene. "It was for re-shoots, and he was working in Hong Kong and I couldn't get there because I was working on my own film," Portman explains. "And so they put his wife in my wig and costume. That's why it was so passionate."



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Entrepreneur and a gentleman

Paul Smith speaks.

The avuncular 67-year-old combines the eager to please affability of a local shopkeeper with the corporate know-how of a global empire proprietor

RICHARD PECKETT

Metro World News

Paul Smith is flitting between an official photographer and a gaggle of student iPhone snaparazzi at a new exhibition, Hello, My Name Is Paul Smith, at the Design Museum in London.

Sir Paul — a title he almost declined — excels at being a man of the people (politicians, take heed). While I'm waiting for my interview, groupies swarm to a gracious welcome — gosh, even toddlers get a hug.

The designer eschews the pretension of high fashion for humanism, a style that's clear in the exhibition's homely curation: fine art pieces flank knick-knacks from fans. Just don't call it a retrospective: "I've got enough stuff for four or five separate exhibitions," he admits.

When was the last time you wore something that wasn't designed by you?

[Laughs] 18. Although, if I'm on holiday and it's suddenly cold and I haven't got a sweater, I might buy a classic cashmere or something.

Do you feel guilty wearing other designers?



British fashion designer Paul Smith's life and legacy is now on display at the Design Museum in London, England.

HANDOUT

Closet caper

"I just like my stuff. I steal it from downstairs; I nick it from the shops."

Paul Smith

No, I just like my stuff. I steal it from downstairs; I nick it from the shops.

They're trying to find the samples...

... And I'm the one who has got them all.

You mentioned before that there is a level of pretentiousness and rudeness within the industry. You'd

expect young people to put in the hard graft and work their way up. How do you feel about unpaid internships?

We've never encouraged unpaid internships. We get three, four, five requests a week for work placements. The best we can do these days is say, "Why don't you come for an afternoon or day?"

So you don't let people do weeks at a time?

No, no.

How do you feel about other designers doing that kind of thing?

Well, I think there is a history of it that goes back 20

or 30 years. When people are starting out, it's supposed to be an honour to work but I'm not really sure about that.

Did you ever want to be famous?

No. In this environment here, you expect people to know who you are, but when I walk down the street luckily I'm not a famous face, so thank goodness for that.

I noticed when I walked into the exhibition that your first shop was tiny. It's like a changing room.

I know. It was meant to be a shop! There was a curtain at the top of some stairs to

a tiny changing room. The point of that exhibit is to show that you can start in a way that is considered very humble and then you can grow...

You're not keen on email and computers in general. Do you think that being immersed in technology kills the creative side?

Personally, I'm not into it but I understand it. If you walk outside my room in Covent Garden there are four young ladies that help me: the PA and secretaries get about 600 emails a day, so I'm very IT savvy, as is the whole company. Personally I find that the use of my own eyes, my photography, my notes, works for me — but each to their own. It's about balance.

You said before of the runway, "It's £500,000 on 14 minutes." Does it seem a bit ridiculous?

Absolutely. Unfortunately, it's very much part of the process. A lot of the younger designers — and this is another reason for making this exhibition so down to earth — think that's what it's about: a fashion show and about twenty shops or whatever. Actually, it's only a tiny part of the process. Even if you have the best fashion show in the world but you don't make the clothes beautifully at the correct price and deliver on time and get paid, then it's all a bit of a waste of time.

Would you prefer to do a small salon show?

I would love to do a small salon show again. I used to: my first showroom was in a bedroom and my first show was in my friend's apartment in Paris.

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Vancouver

Name: Sophie

Age: 41

Occupation: TV production manager

What she's wearing

Jacket from Zara, denim vest from H&M, sweater from Gap, bag from Red Flag Design (local), scarf is gifted, jeans from Topshop, sunglasses

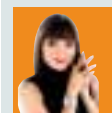
from Arc Clothing, boots from Gravity Pope.

Her inspiration

"My style is casual and on-the-go. I like versatility in my outfit — something I can wear to the office and go on a night out after."

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Did you know Brussel Sprouts grew on stalks?!?! Delectable veggies by culinary master @Vivian_Reiss

3 THE

Crab and Ricotta Mousse: 'Tis the season for creative appetizer ideas

Looking for a classy appetizer idea to whet your guests' pal-

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp (30 ml) lime juice
- 1 envelope unflavoured gelatin
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) boiling water
- 2 stalks of celery, coarsely chopped
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) fresh parsley leaves
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) fresh cilantro leaves
- 1 green onion, coarsely chopped
- 1 tsp (5 ml) lime zest
- 8 oz (225 g) crabmeat, drained, divided
- 1/4–1/2 tsp (1–2 ml) smoked paprika, mild or spicy
- 10 oz (300 g) Quality Cheese Ricotta
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) panko bread crumbs
- Cilantro

ates? Try this Crab and Ricotta Mousse, which is equally delicious with shrimp instead of crab. The mousse can also be moulded in a terrine and served sliced.

1. Pour lime juice into a small bowl and sprinkle with gelatin. Let stand 5 minutes to soften, then add 2 tbsp (30 ml) boiling water to dissolve gelatin.

2. Place celery, parsley, cilantro, green onion and lime zest in a food processor. Process until finely chopped.

3. Add half the crabmeat, the paprika and Ricotta. Process until well combined, add gelatin and season with salt and pepper.

4. To mould the mousse, use a muffin pan or individual moulds (ramekins). Line inside of moulds with plastic wrap or parchment paper to make unmoulding easier.



This recipe serves eight to 10 people. DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

5. Pour mousse into moulds. Cover loosely and refrigerate until set, about 2 hours.

6. To unmould muffin pan,

invert over a baking sheet, remove plastic wrap and place on plates. To unmould ramekins, invert each over plates and remove plastic wrap.

7. Garnish with remaining crab, panko bread crumbs and cilantro. DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA (ALLYOONEEDISCHEESE.CA/GRANDPRIX)

For your phone

Great British Chefs Kids Christmas (iPad/iPhone; free)



MIND THE APP

Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

Show your elves how to share through holiday cooking with these kid-friendly festive recipes curated by British chefs that include gingerbread animals, risotto faces, turkey meatballs and Christmas eclair trees.



Good things come in mini packages — and sandwiches

Monte Cristo Sandwiches



1. Cut baguette crosswise into 40 equal slices. Arrange on parchment-lined baking sheet. Brush the top of each slice with mustard. Top half of the slices with a slice of Emmental, a piece of ham and another slice of Emmental. Place the remaining baguette slices, mustard side down, on top.

2. In bowl, whisk eggs, milk, salt, pepper and nutmeg.

3. In nonstick frying pan, melt half of butter over medium heat. Working with few sandwiches at a time, place in egg mix until they have soaked up a bit of it. Flip over to let them soak other side. Place sandwich-

es in hot pan. Continue to soak and add sandwiches to hot pan until half of the sandwiches are in pan. Cook 4 minutes per side or until golden and crisp and cheese is melted. Transfer to platter; cover loosely with foil. Repeat with remaining butter and sandwiches.

COURTESY PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

Ingredients

- 1 baguette (350 g), ends cut off and discarded
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) Dijon mustard
- 1 pkg (120 g) PC French Emmental Slices, cut in forty 2 X 1-1/2-inch (5 X 4 cm) rectangular slices
- 5 oz (150 g) roasted ham, cut in twenty 2 X 1-1/2-inch (5 X 4 cm) rectangular pieces
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) whole milk
- 3/4 tsp (4 ml) salt
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) freshly ground black pepper
- 1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) ground nutmeg
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) unsalted butter



1. Preheat oven to 425 F (220 C). Place puff pastry on work surface. Roll pastry out in one direction to form rectangle; cut into 24 pieces. Press each piece into the cups of a 24-cup mini muffin pan, allowing some overhang. Freeze 10 minutes.

2. In small bowl, stir together turkey and mayonnaise. Remove muffin pan from freezer; divide turkey mixture among the cups. Top each with a piece of Brie, pressing down slightly.

3. Bake in centre of oven for 20 to 22 minutes or until pastry is golden on bottom and cheese is melted and starting to brown.

4. Meanwhile, in small bowl,

stir together Dijon and honey. Transfer pastry bites to a long platter; drizzle Dijon mixture over top and garnish with parsley leaves.

NEWS CANADA/ PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

Ingredients

- 1/2 PC Butter Puff Pastry, thawed but still cold
- 5 oz (150 g) roast turkey breast, finely diced
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) mayonnaise
- 1 pkg (200 g) PC Double Cream Brie, rind removed and cheese cut into 24 equal pieces
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) Dijon mustard
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) honey
- 24 fresh parsley leaves

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Pining for the scent of a holiday tree

Nothing smells better than when a fresh-cut tree arrives in the house for the holiday season. Sadly, the scent quickly disappears, but there are a variety of ways to re-create it. If you're using an artificial tree this year, you'll want to pick up one (or two) home fragrance options. By layering a few of these, you'll transport yourself into a winter forest. I've sniffed and tested many of the options, and here are the winners.



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohmes
home@metronews.ca

Getting the most out of your home fragrances

- Layer the scent of fresh-cut trees by using a variety of brands and applications. That will create a realistic fragrance throughout the house.
- Dab fragrance oils in discreet places, such as on felt tree ornaments, inside a bathroom tissue roll or on cotton swabs stored in closets.
- Place a diffuser near an air-intake vent so as to distribute the scent throughout the entire house.



ISTOCK



Best fragrance oil

Oils can be dabbed anywhere around the house for a subtle scent. Crabtree & Evelyn Home Fragrance Oil, Windsor Forest scent, \$9, crabtree-evelyn.ca.



Best candle

The royal family of scented candles, infused with rich oils. Diptyque candle in glass, Pine Bark scent, \$75, Holt Renfrew.

Best wax melts

Safer than a candle but with all of the warm-wax smell. Glade Wax Melts Warmer; \$12, Sparkling Spruce scented Wax Melts, \$3, glade.com.



Best air spray

Keep a can near the front door and spritz just before guests arrive. Thymes Home Fragrance Mist, Frasier Fir scent, \$18, thymes.com.



Best reeded diffuser

Place diffusers in open areas like foyers or the corner of the living room. Fruits & Passion Decorative Diffuser Set, Boreal Fir scent, \$28.50, fruits-passion.ca.



Etiquette

The cardinal rules of re-gifting



CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlethebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

To re-gift, or not to re-gift? We all know that there's been a long-standing debate on the topic — and that at best, it leaves everyone agreeing to disagree. So let's put an end to the debate once and for all.

I'm here to tell you that, yes, re-gifting is acceptable.

You read that correctly: Charles the Butler says it's alright to re-gift. Having said that, there's a rule or two involved that we need to understand, so let's go over them.

- Re-gifting is only acceptable if you have never used the item. This means that, if it is a puzzle, you cannot have tried putting it together; if it is a sweater, you cannot have worn it a few times; if it's a DVD, you cannot have watched it; if it's a computer game, you cannot have tried it out for a couple of weeks. The item must be completely unused and in its original package.
- You must give the item to

a person who you think will really like it. Giving something you don't want just to get it out of your house means it's not a sincere gift. You must believe in your heart that the person will honestly enjoy receiving the item in question as a present.

When you give the gift, ensure you make an effort to wrap it properly, and don't announce to the room that it's a re-gift, because that will surely make the other person uncomfortable. Finally, if you're uncomfortable re-gifting despite all of the above, then don't — donate the item in its original packaging to a charity or worthy cause. Someone will be happy to find it.



No really — you shouldn't have. While re-gifting is an acceptable practice, says Charles, there are a few rules you need to observe. Otherwise, things can go awry. ISTOCK

Holiday cocktail party stars

Say you don't like your holiday decor all twee and buttoned up. Typical Christmas themes — country charm, Scandinavian-influenced restraint, Victorian opulence, clean-lined urban chic — all feel a bit limiting after a while. You'd prefer something unexpected, a bit of visual wit. Something that will truly delight, in the way that any self-respecting festival of lights should. So we went in search of seasonal sparkle that doubles as conversation pieces. Here's what we found.

Mantelpiece magic

Part of the brilliance of thin wire light strings such as these is that they're easy to bend and form into shapes. Starry String Lights in Diamond with silver wire finish or Amber with copper wire finish, \$15-\$99; and French Glass Cloches, \$69-99; all from restorationhardware.com.



Gem of a find

If you gave a product designer a brief that said, "quirky and glowing," this could very well be the result — and that's before you add the deer antlers. Hearts, stars and various gem-like shapes adorn these indoor light strings, which come in either clear or gold-coloured versions. Strala light chain, 16 bulbs, \$16.99, Ikea.



Cast a light

It's a perfect time of year to decorate with shadow lanterns, which cast dancing light patterns about the room. Large Punched Tin Shadow Lanterns, \$16.75 US each, lunabazaar.com.

Mirror, mirror

Does anything really say eclectic modern holiday like a disco-ball gnome? This creature from CB2 is so popular he's back-ordered until early December, but well, some things are worth waiting for. If it's a conversation piece you're after, then look no further. Disco gnome, \$149, cb2.com.



Shadow boxing

Anthropologie sister site Terrain doesn't yet ship to Canada, which leaves you with two options. One, if you have any relatives in the U.S. who are asking for your holiday wish list, send them a link to shopterrain.com and let them figure out the rest. Two, if you're DIY-minded, take inspiration from their Gilded Shadow Box. Source a frame from a craft-supply store, then find bits and bobs and tiny wire lights to create a magical vignette.

Origami elegance

Sure, novelty light strings are a dime a dozen, but these ivory paper ones from Serena and Lily have an origami-like presence and an elongated shape that elevate them into something memorable. Paper String Lights in Jewel, \$58 US, serenaandlily.com.



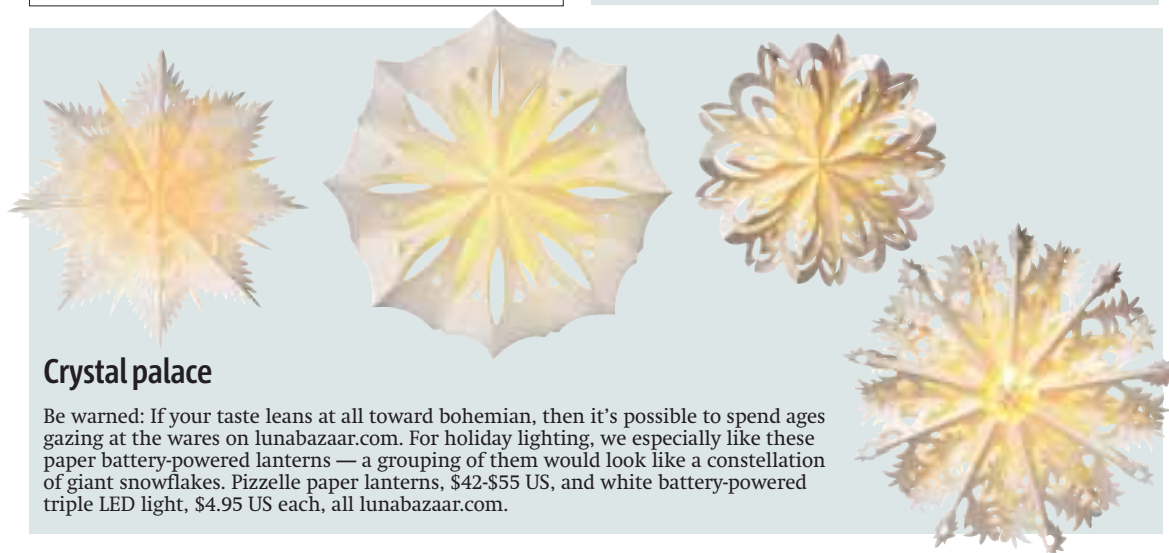
Cheeky charm

Who would have thought that simple mirrored ornaments could have so much personality? We can't help smiling at these. Retro Mirror Star and Asterisk Holiday Ornaments, set of four, \$18 at studioliscious.etsy.com.



Crystal palace

Be warned: If your taste leans at all toward bohemian, then it's possible to spend ages gazing at the wares on lunabazaar.com. For holiday lighting, we especially like these paper battery-powered lanterns — a grouping of them would look like a constellation of giant snowflakes. Pizzelle paper lanterns, \$42-\$55 US, and white battery-powered triple LED light, \$4.95 US each, all lunabazaar.com.



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By keeping a few basics in mind, hosts can help to ensure a safe and positive experience for everyone, including designated drivers. ILLASZLO/SHUTTERSTOCK

metro

HOLIDAY SAFETY

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Show appreciation to designated drivers

For those who love to entertain, the holidays are a much anticipated opportunity to be the gracious host of a great

party. Inviting friends and family to a festive night out is a form of giving and a way to show we care.

But the tone can turn sour if the host suddenly has to play "the heavy" when a guest has had too much to drink, especially if that guest is planning to drive.

What does a caring host do? One solution is to fill your guest list with designated drivers.

As it is with many circumstances, prevention is the best remedy. Hosts who want to relax and worry less about consequences at their party can encourage guests ahead of time to volunteer as a designated driver.

By keeping a few basics in mind, hosts can help to ensure a safe and positive experience

for everyone, including the designated drivers, as follows:

- Advance planning is key — ask guests to volunteer well before the party.
- Let everyone know you will serve alcohol-free drinks.
- Ask those who plan to drink to leave their vehicles at home.
- Remind volunteers that a designated driver abstains from alcohol.
- Keep the inconvenience to designated drivers to a minimum by matching them with passengers who live close to their home. Tell them you will ask someone else to take a turn driving next time.
- Personally thank designated

drivers for helping to keep our roads safe.

Taking the time to show appreciation to those who volunteer is especially important. A recent research report by Ipsos Reid, commissioned by Budweiser (called Designated Driving: A New Generation Comes Of Age) underscores the fact that recognition of designated drivers is key to

encouraging more people to take on the role. Among those surveyed — adults of legal drinking age to 34 years old — the majority agreed that designated drivers don't get enough credit, and 85 per cent agreed that if designated drivers received more credit for what they do, more people would volunteer to be one.

NEWS CANADA

Be sure to arrive alive

People can make up a number of excuses as to why they can still drive home after drinking. Almost everyone knows the dangers of drinking and driving, yet some still make the choice and try to make others believe that they are able to drive. People perceive that they are invincible to the danger of alcohol impairment.

Regardless of the excuses, they are not enough for a defence in the result of a collision or worse, taking someone's life. But these excuses do not hide the fact that people, despite age or driving experience, should not be operating any type of vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol. There are dangerous results that come from

impaired driving.

Alcohol is still the No. 1 resulting factor in fatal collisions on Saskatchewan roads. Students Against Drinking and Driving (SADD) is striving to bring the number of impaired driving collisions and deaths down to zero. This is a goal that SADD has been dedicated to since the 1980s.

With this goal, SADD chapters around the province work year round to bring awareness to their schools and communities. It is important to remember that there are other ways to get home after a night of drinking, such as taking the bus, calling a taxi, or a designated driving service. Friends don't let friends drink and drive.

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Friends – Don't Let Friends Drink and Drive

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The gift of an evening out

The holidays are here and the hunt for gifts is on. If you are wondering what to give friends and family members to show how much they mean to you, look no further than your social calendar and steering wheel. If your friends and family members are like most Canadians, they are deeply appreciative of those who care enough to be their designated driver.

According to a recent research report by Ipsos Reid and commissioned by Budweiser, Designated Driving: A New Generation Comes Of Age, Canadians have "wonderful things to say about designated drivers and their altruistic behaviour." The survey was conducted among adults of legal drinking age (to 34 years old) and the findings show:

- 94 per cent agreed designated drivers save lives.
- 94 per cent admire and respect people who volunteer to be designated drivers.

• 93 per cent agreed our communities need more designated drivers.

Still unsure if this is the right gift for a special someone on your list? Maybe it will make a difference to know that volunteering to keep others safe brings benefits to the giver, too. Just ask the designated drivers surveyed by Ipsos Reid:

- "I feel good about myself when I do something for others by being a designated driver." — 92 per cent agreed.
- "When I am a designated driver I feel good about doing 'the right thing.'" — 94 per cent agreed.
- "When I am a designated driver I can rest assured that my friends and/or family will be safe." — 95 per cent agreed.

Given all the positive views of passengers and drivers alike, it's no wonder that "being a designated driver is evolving as a peer social norm," said John Wright, senior vice-president



If your friends and family members are like most Canadians, they are appreciative of those who care enough to be their designated driver. CANDYBOX IMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK

for Ipsos Reid.

"Our research shows that 78 per cent of adults today have been designated drivers

in the past three years — an average of 19.3 times."

There's no time like the holiday season to help bump

up the average. Just grab the keys and a water bottle, and relax with the knowledge that your friends, family and com-

munity will be safe, thanks to your gift of an evening out with a designated driver.

NEWS CANADA



- ▶ **Distracted Driving** which includes cell phone use, contributed to 60 deaths and more than 2,200 injuries last year.*
- ▶ **Impaired Driving** is the second leading cause of fatal collisions in Saskatchewan.*

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*Source: SGI

Hosts. Ensuring safety of your guests

A lot of preparation goes into a memorable holiday party. It starts slowly with sending out invitations and dusting off the decorations days or weeks ahead of time, then gains speed from grocery shopping all the way through to placing the final sprig of parsley on the canapés.

After all the hustle and bustle, it's tempting to think the prep is over when the first guest arrives at the door, but seasoned hosts know the doorbell signals that the next round of planning is just beginning.

"Every successful party needs a happy ending," said Charlie Angelakos, the vice-president of corporate affairs at Labatt Breweries of Can-



Know that being a host comes with responsibilities to your guests. ALAN BAILEY/SHUTTERSTOCK

ada. "Hosts need to play a role to ensure the safety of their guests and communities, and that means preventing their

guests from drinking and driving."

Here are a few tips to help hosts with the in-party planning:

- Offer alcohol-free drinks. Remind volunteers that a designated driver abstains from alcohol.
- Recognize the signs of intoxication in your guests such as fast/slow/loud/slurred speech, the physical clumsiness or lack of alertness, tiredness, red eyes or heavy eyelids.
- Explore the options. Assign a sober companion to get the guest home safely. Call a friend or relative to pick up the guest, or provide them with money for a taxi.

NEWS CANADA

**PLEASE DON'T
DRINK & DRIVE**

Metro and its partners would like to wish you
and your family a safe and happy holiday!

Survey. Still more work to be done

A poll by the Traffic Injury Research Foundation (TIRF) reveals that fewer Canadian drivers are getting behind the wheel after drinking.

Researchers found that both the percentage of drinking drivers who drove after drinking any amount of alcohol and of drinking drivers who drove when they thought they were over the legal limit dropped in 2012 compared to previous years. The public opinion poll conducted in October 2012 investigated Canadians' behaviours and actions in relation to drinking and driving, as well as trends in their behaviours.

In a new Road Safety Monitor (RSM) report by TIRF, researchers found that the percentage of those who drove after drinking any amount of alcohol decreased to 17.3 per cent in 2012 from 19.2 per cent in 2011. Researchers also found a significant decrease in the percentage of Canadian drivers who admitted to driving when they thought they were over the legal limit in the past 12 months to 3.6 per



Researchers found that both the percentage of drinking drivers who drove after drinking any amount of alcohol and of drinking drivers who drove when they thought they were over the legal limit dropped in 2012 compared to previous years. CREATISTA/SHUTTERSTOCK

cent in 2012 from 5.4 per cent in 2011. The drop in 2012 is even larger when compared with the 9.1 per cent reported in 1998. TIRF first reported a significant drop in the num-

ber of drivers who admitted to driving when they thought they were over the legal limit in 2008. Reasons explaining the additional decrease in 2012 are not immediately

apparent but researchers say this finding is encouraging.

"Socio-economic factors such as employment rates, increasing gas prices and reduced alcohol consumption

are always noted as possible contributing factors when looking at impaired driving rates," said Kyla Marcoux, TIRF research associate. "However, increases in the

availability and the scope of educational programming and awareness campaigns as well changes to federal and jurisdictional impaired driving laws in recent years may be contributing factors as well and further monitoring will be needed to quantify the effects."

In spite of these declines, researchers want to emphasize that further progress can be made. The study found that the decline seen among the percentage of drivers who admitted to driving after drinking any alcohol in 2012 is still well above the low of 14.7 per cent that was reported in 2005. This may suggest that a small number of drivers continue to be unaware of the risks that lower levels of alcohol can pose.

"Even in small quantities, alcohol can have a detrimental effect on one's driving ability," Marcoux said. "Fatigue, lack of food and mixing drugs, prescription or illicit with alcohol can also magnify the effects of alcohol on your system."

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Weston Dressler says he's begun talks with NFL teams after helping the Roughriders win the Grey Cup. TOM SZCZERBOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES

Dressler, Sheets mull NFL options

CFL. Riders pair talk chance south of the border as they head into busy off-season

ROSS ROMANIUK
Metro in Regina

They're newly named CFL all-stars for their heroics with the Saskatchewan Roughriders this past season, though running back Kory Sheets and receiver Weston Dressler are no certainties to be back with the Green and White next year.

Dressler, one of five Riders named on Wednesday to the CFL all-star team — along with

Sheets, offensive lineman Brendon Labatte, defensive end Alex Hall and safety Tyrone Brackenridge — said on Wednesday that he's spoken with numerous NFL teams about next season.

"We've started with those talks. And hopefully by the end of the week, I'm planning on having some workouts lined up," Dressler told reporters at Mosaic Stadium, declining to specify the number or names of the franchises he's been in contact with south of the border.

"There are a few that just seem like talks, and there are a few that seem very interested. It's hard to put a number on which ones I'll look at seriously."

Sheets, meanwhile, said he hasn't been in contact with NFL clubs yet this off-season while he prepares to head to his home in Florida for much of the winter.

"I haven't really talked to my agent. I've been just very busy ... trying to pack up the house and make sure everything is finalized before I left," Sheets said, leaving the door open to speaking to NFL franchises sometime soon.

"You could get a call tomorrow — you could get a call six months from now. That's just how the NFL is. When they need you, they need you. When they don't, they don't."

If he opts to return to the CFL next season and is left unprotected by the Riders in

this month's expansion draft, Sheets said he won't consider Ottawa a possible new home should the RedBlacks select him.

"Not at all. I'm a Roughrider, through and through," Sheets insisted.

"You don't have to worry about me talking to another team."

The NFL, said North Dakota import Dressler, is "something that I've looked at, really, my whole life. So to have that opportunity, I guess, is nice. I'm just really trying to figure out what will be the best situation for me when the time comes, to really make a decision on it. I'm not going to close the doors on anything at this point."

Keon Clark

Ex-Raptor gets 8 years in prison

Former Toronto Raptor Keon Clark, who has said he is trying to turn his life around, was sentenced to eight years in prison Wednesday in a plea agreement with prosecutors on weapons and driving under the influence charges.

Clark pleaded guilty to two charges in two separate cases and was given four years for each count. He previously faced weapon, drug and traffic-related charges.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Steelers coach's sideline shuffle proves costly

Steelers coach Mike Tomlin's ill-timed two-step has cost him \$100,000 and could cost his team a pick in next year's draft.

The league fined Tomlin \$100,000 on Wednesday for nearly colliding with Baltimore's Jacoby Jones during a kickoff return on Thanksgiving.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trouble in Toronto



"It has been a challenged market there, and certainly

has not translated into enough wins for us there."

Russ Brandon, president of the Buffalo Bills, on the team's series of "home" games played in Toronto. Brandon stopped short of saying the team would consider or be allowed to opt out of the four remaining years of the Bills in Toronto deal, which they renewed in January with Rogers Communications.

King Henrik. Goalie gets 7-year extension in N.Y.C.

Just two days after surprisingly watching from the bench for a second straight game, No. 1 goalie Henrik Lundqvist agreed to a long-term contract extension with the New York Rangers on Wednesday.

Lundqvist, in the final season of a six-year, \$41.25-million deal, agreed to a seven-year contract reportedly worth \$59.5 million. His sal-

ary-cap charge would rise from \$6.875 million to \$8.5 million and make him the NHL's highest-paid goalie.

The 31-year-old native of Sweden is off to a slow start this season, especially by his standards, going 8-11 with a 2.51 goals-against average and a .917 save percentage in 20 games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Roar of the Rings

Martin, Jacobs remain unbeaten

There isn't much room at the top as Kevin Martin and Brad Jacobs continued to handle challenges with ease and remain unbeaten with 5-0 records at the Olympic Curling Trials in Winnipeg.

The tie for first will be broken Thursday, when Martin and Jacobs meet in the evening draw.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

24/7. Cameras begin rolling on Leafs' struggles

From injuries to a lack of discipline and a rough stretch on the penalty kill, the Toronto Maple Leafs are dealing with a bevy of problems.

Mired in a five-game losing streak, they'll try to turn things around with the spotlight brighter than ever as HBO's 24/7 cameras began filming them at practice Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Phil Kessel abruptly left practice on Wednesday and was followed into the locker-room by cameras.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

A friend you have not seen for a while will come back into your life today, tomorrow or over the weekend. This time, when you say farewell, promise to stay in touch — and mean it.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

What you focus your attention on today will seem more important than it is, so make sure you focus on positive things. Your mind is a powerful tool and can create happiness as easily as it creates sadness.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Partners and loved ones will be full of themselves today and you may find it hard to get a word in edgeways. Give the impression you are listening, even if your mind is far away.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You have much to do over the next 24 hours, so start early and don't expect to get home until late. When your head hits the pillow, put all the worries of the day behind you. Tomorrow will be as trying. Get some rest.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Mercury, planet of communication and the mind, joins the Sun in the most creative area of your chart today. What does that mean? You must let the world know your achievements — of which there are plenty.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

What happens today, tomorrow and over the weekend may look chaotic but if you cross your eyes slightly, you will see there is a pattern. Never doubt that your life is moving in the right direction.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

The more you are on the move the today, the more likely it is you'll meet people who bring a smile to your face. What could be more important than that?

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You will, as usual, get your way today and you will, as usual, win whatever battle of words and wits you are involved in. But, just because you win does not mean you are right.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

If you are not doing so already, you should be making big plans. Cosmic activity in your birth sign indicates that the more things you start the more you will accomplish and the more fun you will have.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

It may seem as if you are being held back by circumstances beyond your control but is that true? The planets indicate it's likely that you're putting mental obstacles in your path that have no reason being there.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Friendships and social activities are under excellent stars but why wait for other people to make things happen? Get out and make them happen yourself. A sense of adventure will take you a long way.

Pisces

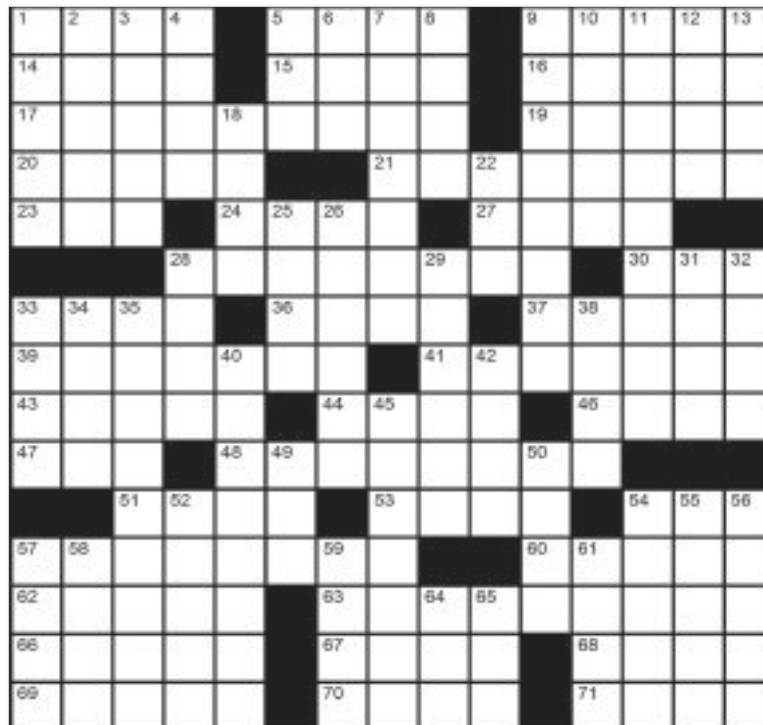
Feb. 20 - March 20

Someone in a position of authority will praise you for a job well done and your confidence will go through the roof. But don't get sloppy. The reason you did such a good job was because you planned and worked hard. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

- Supreme god of Greek myth
- Actress Cameron
- Snail's trail
- Once
- "Why, ___ honoured!"
- Hermit
- "Canada AM" viewing time
- Hockey game instrument
- Harsh
- City on Lake Ontario between Hamilton and Toronto
- Dadaist Jean
- Top notcher
- Simplicity
- Winter shoveller's side-of-driveway creation
- Obi-___ Kenobi
- Diminutive data
- CD part, variantly
- Q. "___ a U2 song?" A. "Yes."
- Regina-born actor Leslie
- It's helpful in making a comparison
- Military trainee
- 19th-century Danish composer, Niels ___
- Prefix meaning 'Thought'
- 'Verb' suffix (Wordy)
- Not a good fit
- Uncommon, in Latin
- Writer Roald



- Directions provider
- China's biggest city
- Depart
- "Rolie ___ Olie"
- Toronto transport
- For ___ see (Open for the public)
- Promissory notes

- Stylish
- Ancient civilization of Central America
- Family ___
- Sacred

Down

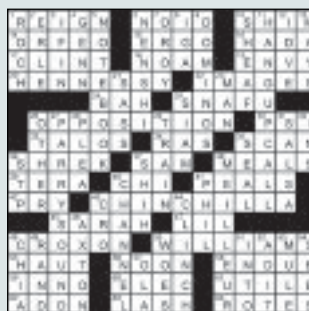
- Z as in ___
- Mistake

- Consume completely: 2 wds.
- Pre-wedding event
- "Who cares?" = "What's the ___?"
- Ms. Lupino
- Does sponge work
- Catherine ___ Jones
- European country where Bratislava is

- the capital
- Loughlin and Singer
- Artsy area of Calgary
- Lunch, for example
- Coastal bird [var. sp.]
- Genghis ___ (Mon-

- gol emperor)
- Mattel guy
- Encrypt
- "Dallas" family, The ___
- Exclusive
- Evangeline's home
- Ms. Jolie, to pals
- Single-named singer with a hyphen in his name
- Sudbury landmark, ___ Superstack
- Ms. Vardalos, and others
- ___-funded agency
- Dropped in stand-ins
- Primitive fish
- Belgium neighbour, for short
- Michael Ferguson, ___ General of Canada
- "Uh-uh."
- She, in Sherbrooke
- "West Side Story" (1961) character
- Manly
- Help
- "When a Man Loves a Woman" by ___ Sledge
- Meat-in-a-can
- Greeting in Granada!
- "Be that ___ may..."
- Engrave
- Ms. McClanahan
- 'Legal' suffix (Lawyer-speak)

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Today

-21°/-28°

Partly sunny

Friday

-22°/-30°

Variable

Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.

Check the 14 day trend.

TWN incorporates MSC data

visit metronews.ca



flurries

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